

REMARKS

The non-final Office Action of August 9, 2006, has been reviewed, and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claim 6 has been amended and new claims 25-33 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 6-8, 10-14 and 25-33 are now pending in this application. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 6-8 and 10-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,324,552 to Chang et al. ("Chang") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,029,141 to Bezos et al. ("Bezos"). Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang in view of Bezos in further view of "Recommender Systems in E-Commerce" to Shafer et al. ("Shafer"). Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang in view of admitted prior art. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

Independent Claim 6

Claim 6 recites, among other features, a client portal for facilitating the purchase of a particular product, comprising: a browser capable of retrieving content only through preselected sites that are related to providing the particular product, such that a user cannot configure the client portal to add or modify controls of the client portal to access content through sites in the network that are not preselected sites and are not related to providing the particular product, and wherein at least one of the preselected sites lists sites that are available for preselection. Applicants respectfully assert that, neither Chang nor Bezos, alone or in combination, teach or suggest all features of claim 6.

Chang discloses a web browser that limits access to certain sites. Abstract. The system includes a projects repository which is a repository for sets of URL's and files called projects, with a depth parameter associated with each URL or file in a project. Col. 3, lines 29-31. For instance, attached to each project page listed is a list of depth values, which corresponds to the depth of the page from the project page. Col. 5, lines 3-5. The depth parameter enables users to

browse from web sites on the select list to *unlisted sites* which are within the depth parameter away from the listed sites. Abstract.

Chang fails to teach or suggest a browser capable of retrieving content only through preselected sites. Further, Chang fails to teach or suggest a browser in which a user cannot configure the client portal to add or modify controls of the client portal to access content through sites in the network that are not preselected sites. Rather, Chang describes a system wherein users can access sites on a preselected site list or can add new sites within certain predetermined parameters.

Even if the combination of Chang and Bezos were proper, the addition of Bezos fails to cure the deficiencies of Chang. Bezos describes an internet-based referral system that enables individuals to market products from a merchant's web site. Bezos further describes customer access to an associate's web site that depicts various products and information about the products. Col. 6, line 59-Col. 7, line 5. The associate's web site further includes special hyperlinks that, when selected, automatically link the customer to the merchant's web site. Col. 7, lines 6-20. Bezos fails to teach or suggest a client portal for facilitating the purchase of a particular product including a browser capable of retrieving content only through preselected sites, as asserted in the Office Action. Rather, Bezos provides customers with a catalog of items for purchase and links the customer to the merchant web site for purchase of those items.

Thus, for at least the reasons discussed, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 6 is allowable over the combination of Chang and Bezos.

Dependent Claims

Dependent claims 7, 8 and 10-14 are also allowable by virtue of depending from allowable independent claim 6, and in further view of the additional features recited therein. Further, the attempted addition of Shafer does not make up for the above-discussed deficiencies of Chang and Bezos.

New Claims

New claims 25-33 have been added. Independent claim 25 recites, among other features, a client portal for facilitating the purchase of a particular product, comprising a first computer

configured to receive information via a network identifying a plurality of preselected sites; wherein the first computer includes a browser configured to limit user access to the preselected sites. Independent claim 30 recites, among other features, a computer-readable medium storing computer executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising the steps of: receiving, at a first computer, information via a network identifying a plurality of preselected sites; and limiting, by a browser of the first computer, user access to the preselected sites.

Applicants respectfully assert that none of Chang, Bezos and Shafer, alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features recited in these claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 25 and 30, as well as claims 26-29 and 31-33 that depend therefrom, are allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions or feel that a telephone or personal interview would expedite prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,
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